

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 remain pending in the application. Claims 1, 4-5, 11-17, and 20 have been amended. Claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice.

Claims 4-5, 12-13 and 20 stand objected on account of certain informalities.

In response, Applicants have now amended the above-identified claims and corrected the stated informalities.

The Office Action states that claims 9 and 16 stand objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim.

In order to advance the prosecution of the present application, Applicants have opted to amend independent claims 1, 17 and 20 and introduce in the stated claims the limitations recited in claim 9.

Accordingly, Applicants believe that claims 1-8, 10-20 as amended are allowable.

In view of the foregoing arguments and amendments, Applicants believe that they have overcome all the rejections and objections to the application, and respectfully request that all the amendments be entered and that the Examiner pass all the pending claims to issue.

Should the Examiner have any suggestions pertaining to the allowance of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

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